

Application Number:  
Application Filed: 07/25/2003  
Applicant: Yutaka Kobayashi  
Title: Method and Apparatus For Making Sushi Rolls  
Examiner: Reginald L. Alexander/1761

February 8, 2005

**Claims List:**

**Claims:** Cancel all claims of record (claims 1-8) and substitute new claims 9 to 16 as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (New) An apparatus for making individual portions of associated rolled food products comprising:
  - a. a flexible, planar member with the axis of flexibility parallel to one edge of the said member.
  - b. a plurality of slots through the surface, perpendicular to said axis of flexibility, said slots extending less than the full distance from said edge to parallel, opposing edge.
10. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein said flexible member is formed of an organic polymer material.
11. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein said flexible planar member is made from bamboo and coated with an organic polymer material.
12. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein said slots are of sufficient size to accommodate a cutting means.
13. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein the width of said slots are of sufficient size to allow a cutting means to separate the rolled food product without said cutting means coming in contacting with sides of said slots.
14. (New) The apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein edges of said slots are rounded as to deflect edges of cutting means.
15. (New) A method of making individual portions of associated rolled food products comprising the steps of:

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- a. forming, tightening and consolidating predetermined foodstuffs using said flexible planar member into elongated, cylindrical tubes.
  - b. separating said tubes with a cutting means utilizing said slots into individual portions.
16. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein said cutting means is a knife.

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**Conclusion:**

For the above reasons, we submit that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims all define patentability over prior art. Therefore we submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action we respectfully request.

Regards,



Scott Nelson

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Customer # 37251